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Brazile weighed replacing Clinton

Book details thoughts
after nominee fainted

BY PHILIP RUCKER

Former Democratic National Committee head Donna Brazile writes in a new book that she seriously contemplated setting in motion a process to replace Hillary Clinton as the party's 2016 presidential nominee with

then-Vice President Biden in the aftermath of Clinton's fainting spell, in part because Clinton's campaign was "anemic" and had taken on "the odor of failure."

In an explosive new memoir, Brazile details widespread dysfunction and dissension throughout the Democratic Party, including secret deliberations over using her powers as interim DNC chair to initiate the process of removing Clinton and running mate Sen. Tim Kaine (Va.) from

BRAZILE CONTINUED ON A18



ASTRID RIECKEN FOR THE WASHINGTON POST



SALWAN GEORGES/THE WASHINGTON POST

All eyes on Virginia

In the governor's race between Republican Ed Gillespie, left, and Democrat Ralph Northam, both parties are making a huge push to turn out their bases Tuesday, while the attorney general's race has drawn twice as much cash as in the previous cycle. **Stories, C1**

Poll: Low approval of Trump endures

9 months in, trust in his
care of key issues declines

BY DAN BALZ
AND SCOTT CLEMENT

A majority of Americans say President Trump has not accomplished much during his first nine months in office and they have delivered a report card that is far harsher even than the tepid

expectations they set for his tenure when he was sworn into office, according to a new Washington Post-ABC News survey.

Approaching the first anniversary of his victory over Hillary Clinton in the 2016 election, Trump has an approval rating demonstrably lower than any previous chief executive at this point in his presidency over seven decades of polling. Fewer than 4 in 10 Americans — 37 percent — say they approve of the way he is

POLL CONTINUED ON A10

Scenario of war on N. Korea: Invasion

Ground forces required,
Pentagon says; biological,
chemical response a risk

BY DAN LAMOTHE
AND CAROL MORELLO

The only way to locate and secure all of North Korea's nuclear weapons sites "with complete certainty" is through an invasion of U.S. ground forces, and in the event of conflict, Pyongyang could use biological and chemical weapons, the Pentagon told lawmakers in a new, blunt assessment of what war on the Korean Peninsula might look like.

The Pentagon, in a letter to lawmakers, said that a full discussion of U.S. capabilities to "counter North Korea's ability to respond with a nuclear weapon and to eliminate North Korea's nuclear weapons located in deeply buried, underground facilities" is best suited for a classified briefing.

The letter also said that Pentagon leaders "assess that North Korea may consider the use of biological weapons" and that the country "has a long-standing chemical weapons program with the capability to produce nerve, blister, blood and choking agents."

The Pentagon repeated that a detailed discussion of how the United States would respond to the threat could not be discussed in public.

The letter was written by Rear Adm. Michael J. Dumont, the vice director of the Pentagon's Joint Staff, in response to a request for information from two House members about "expected casualty assessments in a conflict with North Korea," including for civilians and U.S. and allied forces in South Korea, Japan and Guam.

KOREA CONTINUED ON A8

Sudden instability

Lebanon's prime minister resigns, raising the Middle East's risks. **A15**

The Trumps depart Hawaii for an Asian tour



JONATHAN ERNST/REUTERS

President Trump and first lady Melania Trump board Air Force One at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam in Hawaii on Saturday, en route to Japan, which is the first leg of their five-country trip. **Stories, A8 and A11**

Sundry cuts to deductions muddle plans taxpayers laid

BY CAROLYN Y. JOHNSON

When Diane Thorsen began to show signs at an early age of the Alzheimer's disease that had stolen her mother's mind, she and her husband, Richard Davis, were as ready as they could be.

They sold their house in California to prepare for the cost of care and moved to Minnesota to live with one of Thorsen's daughters. Davis planned their finances methodically; once Thorsen's long-term care insurance ran out, the daunting \$98,000 bill for her nursing home would be manageable — because they could deduct medical expenses from their tax bill.

But as the Republican tax plan took shape, Davis felt as though the rug was being pulled out from under them. He plugged numbers into a spreadsheet as details of the plan emerged, finally arriving at the conclusion that after all his budgeting to avoid digging into savings, he would need to withdraw about \$24,000 next year.

"I kind of had everything all planned out. I had it planned out

TAXES CONTINUED ON A11



In a remote village in Congo Republic, a country with nearly 90 suspected cases of monkeypox, a teen's lesions are examined because his grandfather, who had lesions and fever, recently died.

U.S. and Congolese scientists are tracking a virus in an age when diseases can rapidly go global

CHASING A KILLER

BY LENA H. SUN
PHOTOS BY MELINA MARA
IN MANFOUETE, CONGO REPUBLIC

Along a narrow, winding river, a team of American scientists is traveling deep into the Congo rain forest to a village that can be reached only by boat.

The scientists are from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and they have embarked on this watery journey to solve a decades-old mystery about a rare and fatal disease: monkeypox.

A cousin to the deadly smallpox virus, the monkeypox virus initially infects people through contact with wild animals and

can then spread from person to person. The disease produces fever and a rash that often turns into painful lesions that can feel like cigarette burns. It kills up to 1 in 10 of its victims, similar to pneumonic plague, and is particularly dangerous in children. Monkeypox is on the U.S. government list of pathogens such as anthrax and Ebola with the greatest potential to threaten human health. There is no cure.

Over the past year, reports of monkeypox have flared alarmingly across Africa, one of several animal-borne diseases that have raised anxiety around the globe. The Congolese government invited

MONKEYPOX CONTINUED ON A12

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Details, C2

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